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## Sixth x Annual x Report

OF THE

## Parish x Association

OF THE



Church of the Holy Apostles, Philadelphia.  
The First Building, 1868—1873.

## Church x of x the x Holy x Apostles

Philadelphia.

As Read at the Anniversary, Sunday Evening, January 25, 1880.

# Report.

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*Philadelphia, January 25th, 1880.*

TO THE CONGREGATION

OF THE

CHURCH OF THE HOLY APOSTLES:

In accordance with the requirements of its Constitution, the Committee of the Parish Association herewith present the Sixth Annual Report of that organization, embracing as full a statement of the work of the past year as it is possible to give.

It may be as well in the outset, to again bring to notice the objects of our Association, and this cannot better be done than by an extract from our Fourth Annual Report:

"The Association was established in 1874, with a view of enlisting the active co-operation of the members of the congregation in the work which is laid upon our church; and to bring at monthly meetings the operations of the several committees before the members, to stimulate to renewed effort, and to consult as to future measures to the same end."

Shortly after our last annual meeting, it was deemed best to alter the time for holding the monthly meetings from Wednesday evenings, before or after the regular service, when comparatively few came or remained, to the first Monday evening of the month; and from time to time to invite persons not connected with our parish to make addresses. The plan has worked admirably, the number of persons in attendance has been very encouraging, as many as 300 having been present on one occasion, and the smallest, on a very stormy night, about 60.

Interesting and stirring remarks, inciting to renewed exertions in the Master's service, have been delivered by Rev. Dr. Newton, Rev.

Messrs. McVickar, Duhring and Bugbee, and Messrs. Rene Guillou, Francis Wells and Lewis H. Redner, besides the Rector and others from our own church.

The Rector reports the services of the church have been held regularly twice every Sunday without interruption, and the Wednesday evening lecture was continued during the summer months, being united with the Teachers' Meeting for that period; also that during Lent, and before and after the Annual Confirmation, a number of extra services were held; there have been also the usual services on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Ascension Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas and a Watch Meeting on New Year's Eve. The services of song are continued on the fourth Sunday evenings of the month. The attendance at all the services has been gratifying and indicative of interest, yet the Rector is compelled to deplore the absence of many who should enter the courts of the Lord, there are those who have been baptized and confirmed in the Episcopal Church, whose children are enrolled in the Sunday School, who consider themselves as connected with the Parish, receiving the visits of the Minister, and his consolation and assistance at the time of trouble, who yet are never seen in the Sanctuary, it is his earnest wish that all who are regular in their attendance, and the members of the Association should co-operate with him, in inducing such persons to come to Church. It will be remembered by many that one of the daily papers of the city took last year a census of those in attendance on the various churches, by the actual count of a person selected to visit each at a Sunday Morning Service. This count at the Holy Apostles was announced as follows: 287 women, 127 men, 120 children, total 534.

There have been during 1879:

Infant Baptisms, . . . . .	41
Adult Baptisms, . . . . .	7
Confirmed males, . . . . .	14
Confirmed females, . . . . .	32
	— 46
Funerals attended, . . . . .	35
Marriages solemnized, . . . . .	17
Present Number of Communicants, . . . . .	430
Amount of Communion Offertories, . . . . .	\$150

The Holy Communion is administered every second Sunday in the month, and Infant Baptism on the Fourth Sunday.

During the twelve years of the existence of the Parish, the statistics have been as follows:

Baptisms, Infant, 594. Adults, 45, . . . . .	639
Confirmed, eleven occasions, . . . . .	372
Funerals, . . . . .	320
Marriages, . . . . .	123

The accounting Warden presents the following statement of his accounts which are herewith submitted:

#### RECEIPTS.

Pew Rents, . . . . .	\$1,971.48
Collections, . . . . .	844.16
Parish Association, . . . . .	240.00
Sunday Schools, . . . . .	500.00
Subscriptions, . . . . .	175.00
Mite Chests. Easter, . . . . .	45.87
Excursion, Atlantic City, . . . . .	54.50
Collection at Church of the Holy Trinity, . . . . .	700.00
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	\$4,531.01

#### EXPENDITURES.

Deficit 1878, . . . . .	\$515.00
Current Expenses, Rector and Sexton's Salaries, etc. 2592.82	
Gas and Fuel, . . . . .	358.90
Interest on Ground Rent, . . . . .	600.00
Convention Fund, two years, . . . . .	100.00
Insurance, . . . . .	50.00
Repairs and Improvements, . . . . .	138.32
Episcopal Hospital Collection, . . . . .	38.84
30th Ward Relief Association, . . . . .	15.60
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	\$4,409.48
Balance in hand,	\$121.53

The Warden's accounts are made up to January 1st, and he has not therefore included in his balance an additional appropriation from the Sunday Schools of \$200, made after the 1st instant.

Comparing this report with that of last year, it will be seen:

First. That the revenue from Pew Rents is still smaller:

Second. That the Sunday collections are some \$200 greater.

Third. That had it not been for the generous assistance of the Church of the Holy Trinity, and the contributions of \$500 made from the Sunday School, it would have been impossible to meet the expenses.

The Warden again calls attention to these facts:

First. The small number of pews rented.

Second. The moderate rental at which they are placed. A whole pew can be rented for \$4 a year, and one in the middle of the Church, in an eligible locality for from \$20 to \$30.

Third. That the Sunday Schools are supported entirely by the teachers and their friends, and have not asked the congregation for anything, except to contribute towards the Christmas Festival.

Fourth. That the music is no expense whatever to the Church, the services of Organist and Choir being rendered freely and voluntarily.

He therefore urges all those who have the ability to rent a pew or sitting in the Church, and to remember the regular Sunday collections.

It must not however be supposed that those who do not rent a pew or sitting are not welcome, the seats which are not so taken are free to all who choose to occupy them, and every attendant upon our services is at all times welcome.

The Fruit and Flower Festival was held in June, and the amount realized was \$265.69, two of the three evenings were exceedingly stormy, which prevented a greater result.

The effective work of the Association is confided to Committees.

The first of these is that of Sunday Schools and Bible Classes, From their report we learn number on the Roll as follows:

Officers and Teachers, . . . . .	73
Scholars, Infant School, . . . . .	330
Scholars, Main School, . . . . .	480
Eight Bible Classes, . . . . .	215
Total, . . . . .	<hr/> 1098

The average attendance exclusive of July and August has been

Officers and Teachers, . . . . .	68
Scholars, . . . . .	723
Total, . . . . .	<hr/> 801

Including these months

Officers and Teachers, . . . . .	64
Scholars, . . . . .	682
Total, . . . . .	<hr/> 746

The largest attendance was Sunday, December 28th, . . . . . 1,024

The smallest attendance was Sunday, August 17th, . . . . . 341

The Superintendent again calls attention to the very large average attendance of teachers, being 64, or 88 per cent. of the whole number. Exclusive of July and August it was 94 per cent. ; the smallest number upon any one Sunday having been 31.

The sessions of the School are held every Sunday afternoon at 2.30.

The International Series of Lessons adapted to our Church year, by a committee of clergymen and laymen in connection with a committee of the Sunday School Association of the P. E. Church in Philadelphia, continue to be taught, and considerable interest is taken in the study by both teachers and scholars. As an evidence of this on the part of the scholars, the Superintendent hands us the following report of an examination held at the close of the last quarter:

"At the commencement of the last quarter of 1879, I announced to the scholars of the Sunday-schools of the Church of the Holy Apostles, that at the end of the quarter those who desired could enter for a competitive examination. This examination was held on Monday evening, December 22, when each scholar present was handed a copy of the following questions:

1. Name the seasons of the church year.
2. What ones have we passed through in part since October 1?
3. Name the portion of the Bible in which our lessons are found.
4. Name as many of the books from which the lessons are taken as you can.
5. Give the authors' name as far as you are able.
6. Who wrote the last book of the Bible?
7. What other book did he write?
8. What was he called?
9. Where was he when he saw the vision referred to in our lessons?
10. Why was he there?
11. What were apostles and others who suffered persecution and death called?
12. What does this word mean?
13. Who was the greatest missionary the church has had?
14. Where was he born?
15. How did he become a Christian, and where?
16. Who wrote the book from which our motto (2 Pet. 3: 18) for 1879 was taken?
17. What was his trade or occupation?
18. Can you remember any action of his for which he was very sorry?
19. Can you tell the manner of his death?
20. Give the titles of two or more of the lessons?
21. Give the golden texts of any two of the lessons?
22. Give any important thought from the lessons or reviews that you remember.
23. What is the form of instruction the church has set forth called?
24. What is the name given to the articles of belief?
25. How many sacraments are there?
26. What is the general name given to the law which God gave to Moses?
27. What do we learn from these books?

28. What is the last word in the Bible?

29. What does it mean?

30. What do you consider to be the object of attending Sunday-school?

"Some fifty had enrolled themselves, but the night being exceeding stormy, all did not appear. Each scholar was assigned a separate table, and no helps of any kind were allowed. A committee of judges was appointed, none of whom were connected with the school, and the scholars were known to them only by their designated number and their age. Six prizes were awarded. Two of these were to girls over sixteen years of age. Two were to girls under sixteen. Two were for boys. The answers, as a whole, were remarkable for intelligence and thought. As a sample, I append several to the thirtieth question, What do you consider to be the object of attending Sunday-school?

"A girl of eleven years says, 'To love and serve God, and to learn to be a Christian.'

"Another of thirteen and a-half says, 'To learn to do God's holy will and commandments.'

"One of fifteen says, 'To learn the Bible, and to be an earnest Christian.'

"A boy of a little more than sixteen expresses it, 'My object in attending Sunday-school is to learn to walk in the paths of the Saviour; to make him my example; to hold him up as a perfect pattern to guide me to the haven where my soul at last expects to rest in happiness for eternity.'

"A girl of eighteen says, 'To learn God's will, to study his word, to make us wise unto salvation.'

"Another boy of seventeen says, 'To learn the way of salvation.'

"One of the members of a Young Ladies Bible Class says, 'To study God's word, and learn to be more like him in our lives.'

"And another thus beautifully expresses it, 'To learn to love the dear Saviour, and try to follow in the blessed steps of his most holy life, and be instructed in the truths that will make us wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.'

The Sunday Reviews have been as in former years, increased in interest by the beautiful diagrams prepared by a member of the Men's Bible Class.

The Teachers' Meetings have been continued weekly, on every Friday Evening, excepting Good Friday, and during the summer months, when they were held on Wednesdays. It is not necessary here to elaborate upon the usefulness of these weekly gatherings. They are a permanent feature of our school work, and we are glad to record the fact that 11 of the schools of our Church in this city, hold weekly meetings, and 16 monthly.

The average attendance for the year has been:

Teachers, . . . . .	40
Other persons, . . . . .	13
	53

The Superintendent must repeat his language in the reports of previous years, and refer with thankfulness to the personal sympathy and attachment which exists between himself and his teachers, and also, in a great measure, between the latter and their scholars. He has had brought to his notice many instances of unwearying devotion on the part of teachers in dealing with their scholars, and a constant looking out for their spiritual and temporal interests. To this he ascribes under God, the large number who, during the year, consecrated themselves to the service of Christ. Of the 46 who were confirmed, 34 were from the Sunday Schools and Bible Classes.

The Christmas Services of the schools were held on Sunday afternoon, December 28th, for the Infant Department, and in the evening for the Main School; at the latter, addresses were delivered by the Rector and Rev. Messrs. Simes and Thomas.

The Easter Anniversary was held as usual on the evening of that day, and the Christmas Festivals on Tuesday, December 30th. The Library of the school is closed at present, the books needing a thorough overhauling before it can be reopened; it numbers about 800 volumes, in addition to which there are Libraries in the Adult Bible Classes, that of the teachers', consisting mainly of books of reference, and numbering 300 volumes.

The Treasurer of the School reports:

Total amount contributed and collected by Teachers and Scholars in 1879, . . . . .	\$1,294.03
Balance due from 1878, . . . . .	287.72
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	\$1,581.75

#### EXPENDED.

Support of the Church, . . . . .	\$700.00
Sunday-school Library, . . . . .	50.00
Missionary purposes:—	
Bishop Penick for Africa, . . . . .	100.00
" Whipple for Indian Work, . . . . .	50.00
" Vail for Kansas, . . . . .	50.00
" Whittle for Freedmen, . . . . .	50.00
Episcopal Hospital, . . . . .	30.86
Mexican League, . . . . .	36.00
Various Missionary Objects, . . . . .	65.00
Printing, . . . . .	63.00
Lesson Papers, Hand-Books, &c., . . . . .	78.43
Christmas Festival, including dressing the Church, .	173.15
Sundries, . . . . .	60.83
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	\$1,507.27
Balance, . . . . .	\$74.48

The schools united with other schools in the special Lenten Missionary offerings, and the amount contributed as will be seen by the above report was \$550, the amounts sent to Bishops Penick, Vail, Whipple and Whittle were acknowledged by letters, which were of great interest to the scholars.

In addition to that of Sunday Schools and Bible Classes the following Committees are at present in active operation.

#### First Committee—On Parish Library.

The Chairman states that the number of books is 900, the Library is opened every Wednesday evening, and books may be taken out on any evening the building is opened. We again regret that this means is not more generally availed of by the members of the congregation, it may not be understood that all are entitled to its privileges.

The present Librarian has been most untiring in his work, and deserves the thanks of all.

Besides the volumes in the Library, there are on file: *Episcopal Register, Churchman, Standard of the Cross, Sunday School Times, Watchman and American Messenger.*

#### Second Committee—On Church Hospitality.

They can give no statistical report of their work, their duty being to extend a hearty welcome to strangers, of whom many are present at every service.

The members attend before and after the stated services both on Sunday and during the week, and have been the means of making many feel at home, who might otherwise have experienced the loss of such friendly greeting as was thus given them.

They have been the means of introducing quite a number of persons to the Rector, also bringing others into the Sunday Schools.

#### Third Committee—On District Visiting.

The members of this Committee have paid about 300 visits, and have also visited and relieved a number of cases of distress, they have also been instrumental in bringing into the Sunday School and Church those who had no other religious connection, and others recently coming into the neighborhood.

This Committee again expresses its appreciation of the Ward Association for the Relief of the Poor with which it has co-operated, and received valuable advice and assistance in preventing many cases of imposture from obtaining relief, and judiciously dispensing assistance to the needy, they believe that if these Ward Relief Organizations were properly understood by the Churches they would be found to be valuable auxiliaries in their work among the destitute and neglected.

## Fourth Committee—On Mothers' Meetings.

These meetings were commenced on December 7th, 1878, and continued till May 9th, 1879.

Number held, . . . . .	18
Garments sold, . . . . .	127
Amount contributed, . . . . .	\$15.50
Incidental expenses, . . . . .	4.41
Balance over, . . . . .	<u>\$11.09</u>

During the present season the meetings were resumed on November 7th, with a gratifying attendance which has increased; the members meet on Friday evenings, and while working, some entertaining or instructive book is read.

Fifth Committee—On Missionary Work, have acted in connection with that of District Visiting.

## Sixth Committee—On Music.

The Chairman reports that the choir numbers as follows:

Soprano voices, . . . . .	13
Alto     " . . . . .	8
Bass     " . . . . .	4
Tenor     " . . . . .	3
Organist, Leader and Blower, . . . . .	3
	<u>31</u>

Their services are voluntarily rendered, not only on Sundays, but also during the week, they meet to practise on Wednesday evenings, after the service. Your Committee feel that the thanks of the congregation are again due to them for the very faithful, hearty and cheerful manner with which they have performed their duties and led in the simple congregational singing which has been so characteristic of all our services.

The last committee on the list is that of the Young Men's Association. This committee has been reorganized after an interim of several years, and is now in successful operation. Its object is to afford instructive amusement and recreation to the young men and older boys of our Church and Sunday School. To this end the lower rooms of the parish building are open every Tuesday evening from 7 to 10 o'clock, tickets being distributed to those of certain age. The number in attendance is very gratifying, the average for December having been more than 40. A portion of the committee are present each evening, and the time is employed in reading and games, with occasional reading of selected and humorous pieces by some one designated.

It is hoped that some way may be found to interest and entertain those of the opposite sex and of similar age.\*

During the year there have been several special committees who have performed duties determined upon by the Association.

These committees are—

That on Fruit and Floral Festival.

“ “ Excursion to Atlantic City.

“ “ Dressing the Church at Christmas.

These have faithfully attended to the work assigned them, and the pecuniary results will be seen in the Treasurer's report.

Another special committee has now charge of entertainments for the purpose of increasing the revenue of the Church.

The Treasurer of the Association reports :

## RECEIPTS.

Balance in hand from 1878, . . . . .	\$89.75
Collections and Mite Chests, . . . . .	48.22
From Festival of 1878, . . . . .	8.25
Net profit from Strawberry Festival, . . . . .	<u>265.79</u>
	<u>\$412.01</u>

## EXPENDED.

Accounting Warden for Church Expenses, . . . . .	\$240.00
Benevolent Purposes, . . . . .	72.84
Expenses Easter Anniversary and sundry items, . . . . .	62.50
	<u>\$375.34</u>
Balance, . . . . .	<u>\$36.67</u>

Grouping together then the various Treasurer's reports, and we find the total amount from all sources, including pew rental, subscriptions, collections, donations, entertainments, etc., was

\$5,950.27

and the expenditures were

Support of the Church, including interest on	
Ground-rent, . . . . .	\$3,551.72
Repairs and Improvements, . . . . .	188.32
Support of Sunday Schools, Library, etc., . . . . .	252.26
Printing and Expenses of Anniversary, Christmas Festival and Dressing Church at Christmas and Easter, . . . . .	235.65
Missionary Purposes, . . . . .	663.55
Convention Fund, . . . . .	100.00
Accounting Warden deficit, 1878, . . . . .	515.00
	<u>\$5,506.50</u>
Balance, . . . . .	<u>\$443.77</u>

\* A Sewing Circle was commenced to meet this object on February 3d; much interest is manifested.

## Represented by Balances.

Accounting Warden, including \$200 from Sunday School, . . . . .	\$321.53
Mothers' Meeting, . . . . .	11.09
Treasurer Sunday School, . . . . .	74.48
Treasurer Parish Association, . . . . .	36.67
	<hr/> \$443.77

We have thus presented briefly but as fully as possible the work of this parish during the past year. Its record is as we ourselves have made it and known alone to the great searcher of hearts. Behind these figures and statistics may there have been the earnest consecration and devotion to the Lord's work, otherwise our labor, as far as we ourselves are concerned, will have been in vain.

May, therefore, the earnest resolve and purpose of each member of this congregation to-night be for a deeper consciousness of the love of Christ, and a higher sense of our fellowship with Him. And as on this day the Church brings to our remembrance in her catalogue of Apostles and Martyrs the power and fervor of the greatest Missionary to which her annals testify, in the conversion of Saint Paul, may we realize that we can emulate no nobler spirit in our desire for better and higher ideas of Christian duty and privilege, and as in the language of the collect for the day we pray, "Grant, we beseech thee, that we, having his wonderful conversion in remembrance, may show forth our thankfulness to thee by following the holy doctrine which he taught." So, also, we may, as he did when aroused to a full consciousness of the love and sacrifice of Jesus of Nazareth, our Saviour and Redeemer, say, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" We stand almost on the threshold of the Lenten season, may we strive during its sacred and holy days to cultivate the spirit and power of the great Apostle, and may the Lord Jesus, who stood by Paul, stand by and with us in every duty, that so having passed through things temporal, we fail not finally to attain the things which are eternal.

Your friends and fellow-workers,

CHAS. D. COOPER, Rector.  
GEO. C. THOMAS,  
ROBERT KYLE,  
WM. D. THOMAS,

*Committee.*